

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-13
L-03 ACDA-07 COME-00 INT-05 NSF-01 CG-00 DOTE-00
FEAE-00 CEQ-01 EPA-01 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 OIC-02
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00 /111 W
-----015392 201807Z /50

O R 201750Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5287
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10163

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: TGEN, XV, UK
SUBJECT: ANTARCTIC TREATY: ADMISSION TO CONSULTATIVE
STATUS

REF: STATE 141665

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED U.S. PROPOSAL ON ADMISSION TO CON-
SULTATIVE STATUS AND RATIONALE FOR THAT PROPOSAL CON-
TAINED REFTEL WITH JOHN HEAP, POLAR REGIONS SECTION, FCO,
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AT OPENING OF BUSINESS JUNE 20. HEAP SAID THAT HE WILL
DISCUSS PROPOSAL IN DETAIL WITH FCO LEGAL ADVISER ANDER-
SON AND PROVIDE US WITH FORMAL WRITTEN RESPONSE, HOPE-
FULLY BY COB JUNE 21. RESPONSE WILL INCLUDE PROPOSALS
ON HOW WE MIGHT COME TO AN AGREED TEXT WITH ARGENTINA.

2. HEAP'S INITIAL AND VERY PRELIMINARY FEELING IS THAT

U.S. PROPOSAL WOULD MEET REQUIREMENT FOR A PROCEDURE TO BE ADOPTED FOR "PARTIES NOT NAMED IN THE PREAMBLE" AND THAT BECAUSE OF ITS FLEXIBILITY, IT IS "IN PRINCIPLE" THE BEST APPROACH. HE SEES, HOWEVER, A PROBLEM IN THAT WE ALREADY HAVE TWO SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS RELATING TO PROCEDURE BEFORE US; THE FIRST DEALING WITH THE POLISH QUESTION AND THE SECOND REFLECTING ALMOST A CONSENSUS VIEW ON QUESTION OF PROCEDURE. IT SEEMS TO HEAP THAT LATTER REQUIRES THAT ELEMENTS OF THE ARGENTINE AND U.S. PROPOSALS BE BROUGHT TOGETHER IN ONE TEXT.

3. EMBOFF EXPLAINED DEPARTMENT'S VIEW THAT U.S. PROPOSAL IS NOT SUSCEPTIBLE TO BEING MERGED INTO AN "SNT" BECAUSE IT IS BASED ON A DIFFERENT AND MORE FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO THE ISSUE. HEAP SAID THAT WHILE HE APPRECIATES THIS POINT, IT IS DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE THAT ARGENTINA WOULD WITHDRAW IN FAVOR OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL. THE KEY TO THE U.S. PROPOSAL SEEMS TO HEAP TO BE TO OBTAIN COMMITMENT FROM ALL EXISTING CONSULTATIVE MEMBERS TO A FLEXIBLE PROCEDURE WHILE LEAVING OPEN THE MODALITIES OF HOW ONE ACTUALLY ACHIEVES IT. THUS, HEAP ASKED IF WASHINGTON WOULD BE SATISFIED IF THAT KIND OF FLEXIBILITY COULD BE INTRODUCED INTO THE ARGENTINE DRAFT.

4. IN AN ATTEMPT TO REACH SUCH A SOLUTION, HEAP SAID HE MIGHT CONSIDER SUGGESTING THAT THE U.S. AND ARGENTINA

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GET TOGETHER TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITH A VIEW TO COMING FORWARD BEFORE JULY 6 WITH AN AGREED TEXT WHICH REFLECTS BOTH PROPOSALS. THE U.S. MIGHT ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER A SCENARIO IN WHICH THE U.S. PROPOSAL IS CIRCULATED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ALL TREATY MEMBERS. THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY THE CIRCULATION OF THE PROMISED UK "SNT" BASED ON THE AMALGAMATION OF THE ARGENTINE AND SOUTH AFRICAN TEXTS AND REFLECTING THE COMMENTS MADE AT THE JUNE 16 MONTHLY. AT THE TIME OF SENDING OUT THE "SNT," HEAP WOULD INFORM THE GROUP THAT THE U.S. IS CONSULTING WITH ARGENTINA IN AN ATTEMPT TO REACH A MUTUALLY AGREED TEXT. HE SEES THESE CONSULTATIONS BEING HELD ON A NON-COMMITTAL BASIS IN ORDER TO DETERMINE TO WHAT EXTENT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO BRING THE TEXTS TOGETHER.

5. HEAP MADE IT CLEAR THAT AS OUR TEXT HAS ONLY COME FORWARD AT THIS LATE STAGE, HE BELIEVES IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SEEK A COMPROMISE WITH ARGENTINA. HE SAID HE DOES NOT WANT TO GET IN A POSITION OF NEGOTIATING WITH THEM ON OUR BEHALF. COMMENT. HEAP EMPHASIZED THIS POINT SEVERAL TIMES DURING OUR DISCUSSION. AT THE SAME TIME HE ALSO STRESSED THAT HIS REMARKS WERE VERY INFORMAL

AND PRELIMINARY AND HE EXPRESSED HOPE THEY WOULD BE
REPORTED AS SUCH. END COMMENT.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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ISecure: 1
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Line Count: 120
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Subject: ANTARCTIC TREATY: ADMISSION TO CONSULTATIVE STATUS
TAGS: TGEN, XV, UK, US
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